

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 484
By Naifeh

A RESOLUTION to honor and recognize Lieutenant Governor John S. Wilder as one of the premier leaders in soil and water conservation in the United States during the past fifty years.

WHEREAS, John S. Wilder is presently serving his unprecedented thirteenth consecutive term as Speaker of the Senate and Lieutenant Governor of the state of Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, he has represented the people of the 26th District with uncommon ability and genuine compassion for nearly thirty consecutive years, thus building a legacy of public service which stands unequaled in this great state; and

WHEREAS, Lt. Gov. Wilder has carried the sometimes heavy mantle of leadership with understanding and dignity and his exemplary stewardship of the Senate has resulted in the passage of progressive legislation to benefit all Tennesseans; and

WHEREAS, Lt. Gov. Wilder has been unrelenting in his support of Tennessee's farm community and he has been recognized nationally as an agricultural expert through his meritorious service and leadership on numerous committees of the National Conference of State Legislatures and the Southern Legislative Conference and his presidency of both the National and Tennessee Associations of Soil Conservation Districts; and

WHEREAS, on February 5, 1996, Lt. Gov. Wilder was specially recognized at the 50th Annual Meeting of the National Association of Conservation Districts held in Las Vegas as one

of the premier leaders in soil and water conservation in the United States during the past fifty years; and

WHEREAS, the crowd of over 3,000 conservation district leaders was extremely pleased to have Lt. Gov. Wilder and Mrs. Wilder in attendance and gave this outstanding couple an enthusiastic ovation to demonstrate their respect and appreciation for Lt. Gov. Wilder's proficient and diligent work on behalf of soil and water conservation at the local, state and national levels; and

WHEREAS, Lt. Gov. Wilder astutely presided over the 25th Annual Meeting during his exemplary tenure as National President of this worthy organization from 1970-1972; and

WHEREAS, Lt. Gov. Wilder is richly deserving of this august honor as his distinguished record of stellar service to soil and water conservation is well documented and renowned across this great nation and state; and

WHEREAS, John S. Wilder's impeccable record of public service stands as a glowing testament to the values of hard work, dedication, empathy and compromise; this state will not soon produce another leader of his stature and quality; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE NINETY-NINTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, That we hereby honor and congratulate our most trusted and valued colleague, Lieutenant Governor John S. Wilder, on his much deserved recognition by the National Association of Conservation Districts as one of the premier leaders in soil and water conservation in the United States during the past fifty years. We commend his impeccable service to the highest precepts of public service and salute his unfaltering commitment to leading the examined life with conviction and courage.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.